Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A composition comprising a therapeutically active compound covalently bonded to ~~an adduct of a dialkoxy substance and a guanidinylating reagent~~ a guanidinoaminoglycoside.

2. – 8. (Cancelled).

9. (Previously Presented) The composition of claim 1, wherein the therapeutically active compound is selected from the group consisting of a nucleic acid, nucleoside, protein, peptide, amino acid residue, lipid, carbohydrate, synthetic organic compound, metal, vitamin, small molecule, dye, isotope, antibody, toxin and ligand.

10. (Previously Presented) The composition of claim 1, wherein the therapeutically active compound comprises a nucleoside, wherein the nucleoside is a reverse transcriptase inhibitor.

11. (Original) The composition of claim 10, wherein the reverse transcriptase inhibitor is selected from the group consisting of 3'-azido-3'-deoxythymidine, 2',3'-dideoxyinosine and 2',3'-dideoxycytidine.

12. (Cancelled).

13. (Currently Amended) The composition of claim ~~12~~ 10, wherein the guanidinoaminoglycoside is selected from the group consisting of guanidino-amikacin,

guanidino-gentamicin, guanidino-kanamycin, guanidino-neomycin, guanidino-netilmicin, guanidino-O-2,6-diamino-2,6-dideoxy-beta-L-idopyranosyl-(1 to 3)-O-beta-D-ribofuranosyl-(1 to 5)-O-[2-amino-2-deoxy-alpha-D-glucopyranosyl-(1 to 4)]-2-deoxystreptamine, guanidino-streptomycin and guanidino-tobramycin.

14. (Currently Amended) A method of increasing the cellular uptake of a therapeutically active compound, comprising:

(a) modifying a dialkoxy substance, wherein the dialkoxy substance is an aminoglycoside, by treating the dialkoxy substance with a guanidinylating reagent to form an adduct, wherein the adduct is a guanidinoaminoglycoside;

(b) covalently bonding the adduct to the therapeutically active compound to form a conjugate; and

(c) delivering the conjugate to a cell.

15. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 14, wherein the ~~dialkoxy substance is~~ aminoglycoside comprises a cyclic acetal ~~an acetal or a ketal~~.

16. (Original) The method of claim 14, wherein the guanidinylating reagent comprises a guanidine or alkylguanidine moiety.

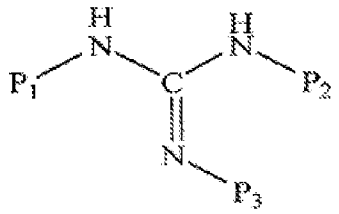
17. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 14, wherein the ~~dialkoxy substance~~ aminoglycoside comprises at least one cyclic acetal having the formula:

wherein R_1, R_2, and/or R_3 groups comprise two or more 5- or 6-membered rings which are linked together by at least one acetal functional group and wherein R_1-R_2, and R_3 are the carbon atoms of two separate ring systems.

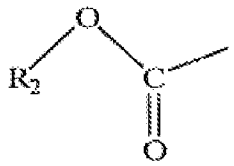
18. – 19. (Cancelled).

20. (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~18~~ 17, wherein in treating the aminoglycoside, the guanidinylating reagent is reacted with at least one primary or secondary alcohol of the aminoglycoside to produce a guanidinoaminoglycoside.

21. (Original) The method of claim 20, wherein the guanidinylating reagent has the general formula:



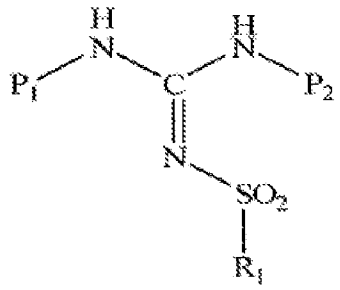
wherein each of P_1, P_2 and P_3 is, independently, the same or different protecting group, each protecting group having the general structure:



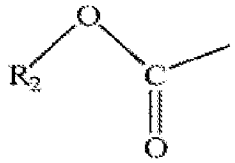
wherein R_2 is a substituted or unsubstituted alkyl, aryl, or heterocyclic group.

22. (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~18~~ 17, wherein in treating the aminoglycoside, the guanidinylating reagent is reacted with at least one primary or secondary amine of the aminoglycoside to produce a guanidinoaminoglycoside.

23. (Previously presented) The method of claim 22, wherein the guanidinylating reagent has the general formula:



wherein R_1 is trifluoromethyl group, and each of P_1, P_2 and P_3 is, independently, the same or different protecting group, each protecting group having the general structure:



wherein R_2 is a substituted or unsubstituted alkyl, aryl, or heterocyclic group.

24. (Cancelled).

25. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 14, wherein the ~~dialkoxy substance~~ aminoglycoside is selected from the group consisting of amikacin, gentamicin, kanamycin, neomycin, netilmicin, O-2,6-diamino-2,6-dideoxy-beta-L-idopyranosyl-(1 to 3)-O-beta-D-ribofuranosyl-(1 to 5)-O-[2-amino-2-deoxy-alpha-D-glucopyranosyl-(1 to 4)]-2-deoxystreptamine, streptomycin, and tobramycin~~, ouabain, deslanoside, digoxin, digitoxin, lantoside and strophanthin~~.

26. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 14, wherein the therapeutically active compound is selected from the group consisting of a nucleic acid, nucleoside, protein, peptide, amino acid residue, lipid, carbohydrate, synthetic organic compound, metal, vitamin, small molecule, dye, isotope, antibody, toxin and ligand.

27. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 14, wherein the therapeutically active compound comprises a nucleoside, wherein the nucleoside is a reverse transcriptase inhibitor.

28. (Original) The method of claim 27, wherein the reverse transcriptase inhibitor is selected from the group consisting of 3'-azido-3'-deoxythymidine, 2',3'-dideoxyinosine and 2',3'-dideoxycytidine.

29. (Cancelled).

30. (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~29~~ 27, wherein the guanidinoaminoglycoside is selected from the group consisting of guanidino-amikacin, guanidino-gentamicin, guanidino-kanamycin, guanidino-neomycin, guanidino-netilmicin, guanidino-O-2,6-diamino-2,6-dideoxy-beta-L-idopyranosyl-(1 to 3)-O-beta-D-ribofuranosyl-(1 to 5)-O-[2-amino-2-deoxy-alpha-D-glucopyranosyl-(1 to 4)]-2-deoxystreptamine, guanidino-streptomycin and guanidino-tobramycin.

31. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 18~~19~~, wherein in treating the aminoglycoside, the guanidinylating reagent is reacted with at least one primary or secondary alcohol of the aminoglycoside to produce a guanidinoaminoglycoside.

32. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 18~~19~~, wherein in treating the aminoglycoside, the guanidinylating reagent is reacted with at least one primary or secondary amine of the aminoglycoside to produce a guanidinoaminoglycoside.

33. (Currently Amended) The composition of claim 1, wherein the therapeutically active compound in the conjugate is covalently bonded to the adduct through a linker, wherein the linker is selected from the group consisting of a thiol linker and an amino acid linker.

34. – 36. (Cancelled).

37. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 14, wherein the therapeutically active compound in the conjugate is covalently bonded to the adduct through a linker, wherein the linker is selected from the group consisting of a thiol linker and an amino acid linker.

38. – 42. (Cancelled).

43. (Currently Amended) The composition of claim ~~35~~ 33, wherein the thiol linker is a dithiol.

44. (Previously Presented) The composition of claim 43, wherein the dithiol is β-mercaptoethylether.

45. (Cancelled).

46. (Currently Amended) The composition of claim ~~35~~ 33, wherein the amino acid linker is glycine.

47. (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~39~~ 37, wherein the thiol linker is a dithiol.

48. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 47, wherein the dithiol is β-mercaptoethylether.

49. (Cancelled).

50. (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~40~~ 37, wherein the amino acid linker is glycine.